



Attorney Docket No. 32492/41888
PATENT

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Susana CURATOLO Conf. No.: 3621
Serial No.: 10/751,946 Art Unit: 2854
Filed: January 7, 2004 Examiner: Mark H. PASCHALL
For: MELTING AND VAPORIZATION APPARATUS AND METHOD

Mail Stop Amendments
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Barnes & Thornburg Customer No:

23646

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an Amendment for filing, and the additional claims filing fee is calculated below:

For	No. After Amendment	Highest No. Previously Filed	No. Extra	Large Entity/ Small Entity	Fee
Total Claims:	21	20	1	x \$50/25 =	\$25.00
Independent Claims:	7	5	2	x \$200/100 =	\$200.00
TOTAL FEES:					\$225.00

A check in the amount of \$225.00 is enclosed. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Account No. 02-1010 (32492/41888).

Respectfully submitted,

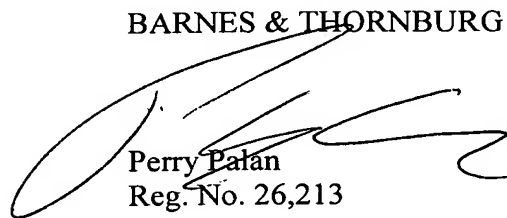
BARNES & THORNBURG LLP

Perry Palan
Perry Palan
Registration No. 26,213
(202) 289-1313

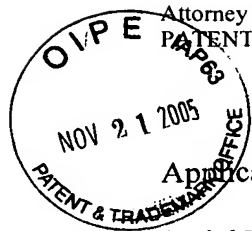
Upon review of the pending claims, it will be evident that they are allowable over the art and thus should pass this case to issue is thankfully solicited. The allowance of claims 3-8 and 18 are noted.

Respectfully submitted,

BARNES & THORNBURG LLP



Perry Palan
Reg. No. 26,213



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Applicant: Susana CURATOLO

Conf. No.: 3621

Serial No.: 10/751,946

Art Unit: 3742

Filed: January 7, 2004

Examiner: Mark H. PASCHALL

For: **MELTING AND VAPORIZATION APPARATUS AND METHOD**

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the official Patent Office action dated September 14, 2005, please amend the claims as shown in the attached Claim Summary.

REMARKS

Responsive to the Office Action dated September 14, 2005, and as a result of the informative and productive interview of November 18, 2005, Applicant has amended the claims to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the present invention.

Claims 1, 2 and 9-17 stand rejected under 35 U.S. C. § 103 as unpatentable over Mizaki in view of Ware. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 is directed to a method of melting a solid including inserting the solid into a tapered envelope; sealing the envelope at a preset pressure and heating the solid in an oven at a temperature substantially below the melting temperature of the solid at the preset pressure for time sufficient to melt the solid.

The rejection considers the envelope 1 in Mizaki as elliptical. This possibly elliptical shape is not a tapered structure. Thus the spherical structure of Ware and the non-tapered structure of Mizaki cannot meet the limitations of amended Claims 1 and 9. Thus, these claims are dependent claims are considered allowable over the art.

New claims 19-22 have been added and are supported by the description beginning with paragraph 26 of the specification. They are considered allowable over the art of record.

11/23/2005 SZWDIE1 00000083 10751946

01 FC:2201 200.00 OP
02 FC:2202 25.00 OP